

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
MEETING OF THE
CALIFORNIA INSPECTION & MAINTENANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE
Tuesday, September 23, 2003
Department of Consumer Affairs
400 'R' Street
Sacramento, California

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Victor Weisser, Chair
Norm Covell, Vice-Chair
Dennis DeCota
Bruce Hotchkiss
Sheldon Kamieniecki
Gideon Kracov
Judith Lamare
Mark Martin
Robert Pearman
Richard Skaggs
Jeffrey Williams

ALSO PRESENT:

Lynn Forsyth, Administrative Staff
Yvette Johnson, Staff Services Analyst

MOTIONS:

1. Committee Member DeCota made a motion for the adoption of the minutes from the September 23rd meeting. A motion received a second from Committee Member Covell. The minutes were unanimously adopted as written

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. The newly appointed members of the committee were introduced and asked to briefly introduce themselves. The new members are: Mark Martin - Area Director with the Machinist's Union, and Gideon Kracov, a Deputy Los Angeles City Attorney. Dennis DeCota was also introduced as being re-appointed to the Committee. Mr. DeCota is the Executive Director of the California Service Station Automotive Repair Association.
2. A brief discussion was held regarding future agendas for scheduled meetings. Due to time restraints, the joint report to the Legislature being developed by the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) and the Air Resources Board (ARB) will be the focus of the November meeting. The October meeting will focus on the series of questions from the July meeting associated with the accelerated vehicle retirement program.
3. Mr. Wayne Ramos, Program Manager for the Bureau of Automotive Repair's Smog Check Enforcement Division, gave a presentation on the objectives and functions of the enforcement division. The foremost objective is to improve the smog check inspection testing integrity. Other responsibilities include monitoring and improving the smog check diagnostic and repair competence, detect and eradicate smog check fraud and educate consumers and licensees on the Smog Check Program. The enforcement division also mediates and investigates consumer complaints. The department also conducts formal investigations which include covert undercover runs.
4. Mr. Richard Mundy, Chief of the Field Operations and Enforcement division gave an overview of how the management of the enforcement program is structured. Along with the enforcement for the smog check program, there is also an equal portion for the auto repair industry, along with the vehicle documentation program. There are eleven field offices staffed with between eight to twenty representatives per office. All program representatives go through a rigorous training program. All representatives have to be licensed ASE master technicians as well as EA technicians. The offices also perform educational presentations. The representatives also spend a great deal of time going through the bureau's policy and procedures manual step by step, case by case. The policy and procedures manual, the smog check manual and the laws and regulations are the three major documents used by the representatives to inspect the stations, ensuring that the stations are doing the inspections, repairs and diagnostic information correctly.
5. Norm Covell and Mark Martin were appointed to an ad hoc committee to develop a plan of action for how we can explore those areas that have been raised today. The ad hoc committee will focus on issues that require more in depth review, those areas that are promising, those areas that need additional exploration, and to bring forward an approach to be discussed at the next meeting.